



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

August 4, 1999

S. 1329

A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to Nye County, Nevada, and for other purposes

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on July 28, 1999*

S. 1329 provides for the conveyance of 800 acres of federal land to Nye County, Nevada. Because the bill would affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply; however, CBO estimates that the net impact on federal outlays would be negligible. S. 1329 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act. Nye County would benefit from enactment of this legislation, which would allow it to obtain two needed parcels of land, one at no cost. The conveyances would be voluntary on the part of the county, as would any amounts spent by the county to purchase or develop the land. The bill would have no significant impact on the budgets of other local governments, or on state or tribal governments.

S. 1329 would direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey about 450 acres of federal land to the county for the construction of the Nevada Science and Technology Center. The conveyance would be at no cost to the county. Since the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has no plans to sell the property under current law, conveying the property at no cost under S. 1329 would not affect federal receipts.

In addition, S. 1329 would give the county the exclusive right to purchase about 350 acres of federal land over the next five years for the development of a business park. The county would pay fair market value for the acreage. Proceeds of the sale would be deposited in the special account established under the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998 (SNPLM), out of which the Secretary may expend funds for land acquisitions and other projects in Nevada. Under current law, BLM has no plans to sell the property. Based on information from BLM, we estimate that carrying out the sale would result in additional receipts of about \$100,000 and subsequent spending of those receipts. Funds deposited in the SNPLM special account earn interest, which the Secretary can spend. Because a lag between the deposit and spending of sale proceeds is likely, we estimate that enacting S. 1329 would result in a net increase of less than \$10,000 in direct spending over the 2000-2004 period.

The CBO staff contacts are Victoria Heid Hall (for federal costs), and Marjorie Miller (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.